Optimal use of rain water

860. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared a map/projection chart of water scarce regions in the country;

(b) the steps taken to increase water availability in such regions; and

(c) the steps taken to store and use river water optimally, particularly during monsoon seasons?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) to (c) The National Water Development Agency (NWDA), a Society under the Ministry of Water Resources, as a part of its studies of National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development prepared by Government in 1980 has carried out water balanced studies of river basins/sub-basins of the country keeping in view the scenario of ultimate stage of water resources development in these basins. NWDA has identified 11 river basins/sub-basins as water deficit river basins. NWDA after the above studies has identified 30 links under NPP (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Report with a view to transfer water from water surplus areas to the water deficit regions for optimum utilization of water resources of the country. The link proposal envisages construction of storage reservoirs, canals and various other hydraulic structures with a view to achieve irrigation, flood control, hydropower, navigation benefits etc. NWDA has completed Feasibility Report for 14 links under Peninsular River Development Component and 2 links under Himalayan Rivers Development Component.

Narmada Dam Project

861. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lately construction work on the Narmada Dam Project particularly on the Rs.2400 crore Maheshwar hydroelectric project at Mandleshwar in Madhya Pradesh has started in violation of